

Political speculations are at a discount, and God knows they are too gloomy to be indulged in when the feelings are already depressed. The future is dark and ominous. The evil day may be postponed, but, as things now go on, it cannot be finally averted. Men become weary of this state of continued warfare and excitement and uncertainty, and they ask themselves seriously if this be really union. They feel that one portion of the country is meddling with the business, and threatening the rights and interests of the other, in a manner and to an extent that no foreign and independent nation would dare attempt toward another. They know that less comity exists between the North and the South than between any two civilized nations at peace with each other. These things cannot go on at this rate. Men that a few brief years ago, yea, at the opening of the present Congress, would have shrunk from disunion of the remotest suspicion of it, become careless and disheartened. If it will come, let it. Let us have some of the benefits, since, as things seem tending to do, we must suffer all the evils and inconveniences of disunion. Disunion! We recollect as but yesterday the time when the very word would have startled men from their tranquility, as though you had spoken of impending death to the country. The dissolution of the political as of the physical form was looked upon as the last expiring gasp of all its parts. Then, Abolitionism and all the other isms had not reared so high their horrid fronts, then the Union was looked upon as a confederacy of equals, not a consolidated patriarchy, where one section aimed to deprive the other of all share in the Government, all rights in the public domain.

That was before a secret order based on the same principle of partiality, had been banded together to deprive certain portions of the citizens of the country of all share in the making or administration of the laws they were bound to support and the government they were taxed to maintain. The same spirit of invidious partiality yielded in the interests of selfish aggression and runs through the whole, and is at the bottom of all the difficulties.

Think Providence the first and heaviest blow arising from the revolutionary action or non-action of the House of Representatives falls upon, and must be borne by the North, into whose pockets four-fifths of the money that would be spent under the army appropriation would even flow. We sympathize with the South, as men who will be thrown out of the North, and elsewhere, but as citizens of the United States, we must sympathize with the Union, and thank their own Government for its policy.

From California the Granada brings us information of the continued ascendancy of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco. They still keep Judge Terry imprisoned, and have made several arrests and hanged two men since the last steamer sailed. What is to come out of all this, no one can tell.

On the side of Nicaragua, things look unfavorable for Walker. He cannot depend upon the natives, and the restless spirits in the United States find plenty of occupation at home, in the Kansas and California troubles, and in the excitement of the approaching Presidential election. Few, if any, will go to Nicaragua, now that the first flush of the excitement is over, and consequently Walker's position becomes daily more precarious. When he can no longer depend upon himself, he becomes highly problematical. The first decisive reverse, will, in all human probability, prove fatal.

Mexico is, as usual, unsettled. If it ever does arrive at any permanency in its public affairs, we fear it must owe it to some iron handed dictator, a la Louis Napoleon. Santa Anna is not the man to be a successful dictator, nor are the Mexicans the people to govern themselves. Exeter Hall, England, has been operating in the grandiloquent declarations against slavery, embodied in several of the recent plans or provisional constitutions put forth by aspirants to power.

The Knickerbocker for September is on our table by mail. It appears to be a good general number of a good general Magazine, in its forty-eighth volume. It has much of Mace Sloper and more than considerable Editors table, and nothing of a long series of tales that used to meander through its pages to the serious discomfiture of its deponent. Mr. J. H. Rothwell is agent for this place; Samuel Houston, 348 Broadway, N. Y., publisher. Three dollars a year; 25 cents a number.

We have also, from the cis-Atlantic publishers, Dix, Edwards & Co., 321 Broadway, N. Y., the September number of Household Words, apparently a good number, containing the conclusion of the "Ninth of June," a tale commenced in the August number. Price \$3 a year; 25 cents a number.

We understand that an accident from the careless or imprudent use of fire-arms took place this morning or last afternoon at the rice plantation of Mr. G. Prigge, about four miles from town. Two colored men, in sport, commenced firing powder at each other, from guns with which they had been shooting or scaring off rice birds. One of them forgot to withdraw his ramrod, which struck the other on the outside of the thigh, near the hip, and was driven through to the inside of the thigh. The men belong to Wm. A. Wright, Esq. We have not learned whether the injury is considered fatal.

Burglary.—We learn that night before last the store of Messrs. Bryan & Oldham, on the corner of Front and Princess Streets, was entered, and some coffee and bacon carried off; the quantity of the above goods stolen has not yet been ascertained. This, we believe, is not the first time that the above store has been entered recently. If it be not the last, the perpetrators will be apt to wish it had been.

Superior Courts.—The Sessions of the Superior Court in this, the 5th Circuit, commenced in Moore on the 18th inst. Judge Dick presiding.

In the remainder of the circuit the Sessions are: Montgomery, Monday, August 25. Stanley, " September 1. Anson, " " 8. Richmond, " " 15. Robeson, " " 22. Bladen, " " 29. Columbus, " " 6. Brunswick, " " 13. New Hanover, " " 20. Sampson, " " 27. Cumberland, " " 10.

Railroad Freights.—A conference of the officers of the Wilmington and Manchester and Cheraw and Darlington Railroads has been held in reference to a through tariff of freights. The desired arrangements were not completed, but a reduction on several articles was agreed upon.

The through rates upon first class goods has been reduced from 17 to 15 cents per foot. The second class is unchanged. The third class has been reduced from 50 to 40 cents per hundred lbs. This class embraces bacon, bagging, rope, &c. Fourth class goods have been reduced from 40 to 35 cents per barrel. This class embraces coffee, sugar and flour.

The rates now agreed upon, on a whole, stock of goods, will be about as follows: River rates, 10 cents. Railroad is the insurer, and when time is a consideration, it is an advantage for the shipper to have his goods insured by the railroad. It is an advantage for the shipper to have his goods insured by the railroad.

We are informed by one of the officers, that the transportation agent on the Wilmington and Manchester Road has expressed his determination to let no goods lie over at Wilmington—that extra trains will be put on the road whenever the business requires it. The transportation agent on the Cheraw and Darlington Road assures us that all goods arriving at Florence will be brought up the same day of arrival by the passenger trains.—Cheraw Gaz.

That old man, Mr. Will venture the assertion that more canes, snuff-boxes and other notions will be manufactured from that "Carter Oak" than an acre of such trees could turn out. The world will be flooded with that particular oak. Great people in the "nutmeg State" Thousands turned out to take the "last fond look" at the prostrate tree. The bells tolled, and a great funeral was taken of it, &c. It was supposed to be 800 years old.

mont's mother was still the undivided wife of old Maj. Pryor, of Richmond, Virginia, at the time of John Charles' birth, and Pryor is therefore J. C.'s legal name.

It may be said that we take too gloomy a view of things. There are those, we know, who entertain and express the opinion that the Union cannot be dissolved. It things go on as they are now going, if the Abolitionists carry their point, there are but two alternatives—the dissolution of the Union or the degradation and ruin of the South.

The News, Politically and Otherwise.

We have in vain tried to find out anything in the action of Congress tending to throw additional light, or put any new face upon the unfortunate position of matters and things at the Federal Capital. The Senate and House of Representatives are at a dead-lock, as they have been for weeks. If there be any solution for the existing difficulties it has not yet been brought forward, or guessed at. The real difficulty depends upon the fact that the Republicans in the House do not desire any solution. If they did, the thing might be easily arranged, in fact, would have been arranged long ago, previous to the adjournment of the regular session, by the passage of the Senate bill in regard to Kansas, which removed all objections that were not factious and intended to be factious.

We have looked carefully over our State exchanges received this morning, and have been forced to the conclusion that the interior of North Carolina is intensely dull, and diligently occupied in keeping the peace and minding their own business. We can find neither a war nor an accident worth copying. The sudden death of our esteemed editorial brother, Josiah Johnson, Esq., of the Fayetteville Carolinian, a notice of which we find in the Fayetteville Observer, strikes most painfully upon our feelings. We had known Mr. Johnson for many years before he became connected with the press, and always respected him as a friend and a Democrat on whom we could rely. His editorial career promised much of honor to him self and of usefulness to his party and to the public. But that career is at an end, and all that remains to us of our late friend is the memory of a clever and worthy gentleman.

From California the Granada brings us information of the continued ascendancy of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco. They still keep Judge Terry imprisoned, and have made several arrests and hanged two men since the last steamer sailed. What is to come out of all this, no one can tell.

On the side of Nicaragua, things look unfavorable for Walker. He cannot depend upon the natives, and the restless spirits in the United States find plenty of occupation at home, in the Kansas and California troubles, and in the excitement of the approaching Presidential election. Few, if any, will go to Nicaragua, now that the first flush of the excitement is over, and consequently Walker's position becomes daily more precarious. When he can no longer depend upon himself, he becomes highly problematical. The first decisive reverse, will, in all human probability, prove fatal.

Mexico is, as usual, unsettled. If it ever does arrive at any permanency in its public affairs, we fear it must owe it to some iron handed dictator, a la Louis Napoleon. Santa Anna is not the man to be a successful dictator, nor are the Mexicans the people to govern themselves. Exeter Hall, England, has been operating in the grandiloquent declarations against slavery, embodied in several of the recent plans or provisional constitutions put forth by aspirants to power.

The Knickerbocker for September is on our table by mail. It appears to be a good general number of a good general Magazine, in its forty-eighth volume. It has much of Mace Sloper and more than considerable Editors table, and nothing of a long series of tales that used to meander through its pages to the serious discomfiture of its deponent. Mr. J. H. Rothwell is agent for this place; Samuel Houston, 348 Broadway, N. Y., publisher. Three dollars a year; 25 cents a number.

We have also, from the cis-Atlantic publishers, Dix, Edwards & Co., 321 Broadway, N. Y., the September number of Household Words, apparently a good number, containing the conclusion of the "Ninth of June," a tale commenced in the August number. Price \$3 a year; 25 cents a number.

We understand that an accident from the careless or imprudent use of fire-arms took place this morning or last afternoon at the rice plantation of Mr. G. Prigge, about four miles from town. Two colored men, in sport, commenced firing powder at each other, from guns with which they had been shooting or scaring off rice birds. One of them forgot to withdraw his ramrod, which struck the other on the outside of the thigh, near the hip, and was driven through to the inside of the thigh. The men belong to Wm. A. Wright, Esq. We have not learned whether the injury is considered fatal.

Burglary.—We learn that night before last the store of Messrs. Bryan & Oldham, on the corner of Front and Princess Streets, was entered, and some coffee and bacon carried off; the quantity of the above goods stolen has not yet been ascertained. This, we believe, is not the first time that the above store has been entered recently. If it be not the last, the perpetrators will be apt to wish it had been.

Superior Courts.—The Sessions of the Superior Court in this, the 5th Circuit, commenced in Moore on the 18th inst. Judge Dick presiding.

In the remainder of the circuit the Sessions are: Montgomery, Monday, August 25. Stanley, " September 1. Anson, " " 8. Richmond, " " 15. Robeson, " " 22. Bladen, " " 29. Columbus, " " 6. Brunswick, " " 13. New Hanover, " " 20. Sampson, " " 27. Cumberland, " " 10.

Railroad Freights.—A conference of the officers of the Wilmington and Manchester and Cheraw and Darlington Railroads has been held in reference to a through tariff of freights. The desired arrangements were not completed, but a reduction on several articles was agreed upon.

The through rates upon first class goods has been reduced from 17 to 15 cents per foot. The second class is unchanged. The third class has been reduced from 50 to 40 cents per hundred lbs. This class embraces bacon, bagging, rope, &c. Fourth class goods have been reduced from 40 to 35 cents per barrel. This class embraces coffee, sugar and flour.

The rates now agreed upon, on a whole, stock of goods, will be about as follows: River rates, 10 cents. Railroad is the insurer, and when time is a consideration, it is an advantage for the shipper to have his goods insured by the railroad. It is an advantage for the shipper to have his goods insured by the railroad.

We are informed by one of the officers, that the transportation agent on the Wilmington and Manchester Road has expressed his determination to let no goods lie over at Wilmington—that extra trains will be put on the road whenever the business requires it. The transportation agent on the Cheraw and Darlington Road assures us that all goods arriving at Florence will be brought up the same day of arrival by the passenger trains.—Cheraw Gaz.

That old man, Mr. Will venture the assertion that more canes, snuff-boxes and other notions will be manufactured from that "Carter Oak" than an acre of such trees could turn out. The world will be flooded with that particular oak. Great people in the "nutmeg State" Thousands turned out to take the "last fond look" at the prostrate tree. The bells tolled, and a great funeral was taken of it, &c. It was supposed to be 800 years old.

Later from California—Vigilance Committee Still in Power.

NEW ORLEANS, August 27.—The steamer Daniel Webster has arrived at the Belize, from Aspinwall, with dates to the 20th. She brings San Francisco dated to the 5th.

The steamer Illinois left Aspinwall on the 20th, for New York, with \$15,000 a treasure.

Business was dull at San Francisco.

The Vigilance Committee were still in full force at San Francisco. They had made many additional arrests, and executed two persons since the departure of the last steamer.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

The crops in California are reported good.

The San Francisco market was active in the first part of the fortnight, but closed dull.

Serious disturbances had occurred in different parts of the State between Americans and foreigners.

On the 20th, the committee hung Joseph Hoberington, for the murder of Dr. Suddall a few days previous; also hung Bruce, for the murder committed by him a year previous.

Judge Terry is still a prisoner. Hopkins, who was wounded by him, has recovered.

Several attempts had been made to fire San Francisco and Sacramento. A fire occurred at Nevada, involving a loss of \$2,000,000.

The failure of Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Co. to pay the State coupons had created a feeling of indignation throughout the State. The State treasurer would provide for the payment speedily.

and that branch of it with which we are particularly connected, have to my personal knowledge used every honorable effort to arrest the calamity which so unfortunately befell the operations mentioned above, and to save you individually from the disappointment and loss which must accrue to you and those with whom you are connected.

From the Fayetteville Observer.

Death of Josiah Johnson, Esq.—We regret to announce the death of Josiah Johnson, Esq., Senior Editor of the "North Carolinaian," which occurred in Fayetteville on Monday last.

Mr. Johnson, a member of this Corps, and who was in the city, but recently removed to this place, died during the brief period of his residence here, but he had won the respect and kind regards of all with whom he was associated. He was a native of Connecticut, but had resided for some years in this State.

His remains were conveyed to Clinton on Tuesday morning for interment—escorted by the "Lafayette Light Infantry," of which corps he was a member. The sustained resolutions express the feelings of the entire community.

For the Observer.

FAYETTEVILLE, Monday, Aug. 25th, 1856.

At a meeting of the Lafayette Light Infantry this evening, intelligence was announced of the death of Josiah Johnson, Esq., a member of this Corps, and the following resolutions were read and adopted.

Whereas, by a sudden and afflictive dispensation of Providence, our friend and fellow soldier, JOSIAH JOHNSON, has been removed from our midst, and as we deeply sympathize with his bereaved family, and as we highly appreciate his many sterling qualities as a man, a friend, and a citizen, therefore,

Resolved, That the community has suffered a serious loss in the early death of one who adorned its social circles by his many virtues, his sterling integrity and his irreproachable personal character.

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathies to his afflicted family in their unlooked for bereavement, and our sincere condolences with them in their grief for the loss of an esteemed friend and a fellow soldier.

Resolved, That the Fayetteville papers and Clinton Independent be requested to publish these proceedings in their next issues.

The Lost Steamer Nautilus.—The New Orleans papers bring us the following with reference to the loss of the steamer Nautilus:

Mr. Robert Johnson, a passenger on board the steamer Nautilus, bound from Galveston for this port, arrived in our city yesterday evening by the Mexican Gulf Railroad, having, according to his account, made a most miraculous escape from the vessel, which he reports as having gone down in the Gulf near Ship Island.

Mr. Johnson said he was rescued by being caught up on board the schooner Maria Pope, while floating on a plank in the neighborhood of the Island, which had then borne him up for 36 hours. The last he saw of the Nautilus, she had steam up, and actually went down in the act of going ahead—himself, in the meantime, having been rapidly driven by the wind and waves to a distance, he thinks, of about two miles.

Before he parted with the vessel the ladies of the vessel were on their knees in the cabin, and Rev. Jerome Twichers was offering up prayer—Captain Thompson remained on deck and manifesting all the coolness and intrepidity possible.

We have not the means of procuring Mr. Johnson's statement in full, and must content ourselves with adding that in his opinion the lives of the following persons have been lost beyond a doubt:

Miss Shoemaker, of Louisville, Ky., who was under her care, and was seen to perish by him beyond the chance of her recovery; her brother, Fred, Johnson, 1st Engineer; John T. Kerr, 1st Clerk; Berce, barkeeper; C. Washburn, and John and Jas. Gibbs, passengers; and two persons whom he saw reach the island safely, and were not recognizable by him, on account of their distance from him at the time he saw them.

The Congressional Compensation Act.—The following is an official copy of the new Congressional compensation act:

AN ACT to Regulate the Compensation of Members of Congress.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the compensation of each Senator, Representative, and Delegate in Congress, shall be, for each Congress, and mileage, as now provided by law, for two sessions only, to be paid in manner following, to wit:—On the first day of each regular session, each Senator, Representative, and Delegate shall receive his mileage for one session; and on the first day of each month thereafter, during such session, compensation at the rate of \$3,000 per annum during the continuance of such session; and at the end of such session, he shall receive the residue of his salary due to him at such time, at the rate aforesaid, still unpaid; and at the beginning of the second regular session of the Congress, each Senator, Representative, and Delegate shall receive his mileage for such second session, and monthly, during such session, compensation at the rate of \$3,000 per annum, till the 4th day of March terminating the Congress; and on that day each Senator, Representative, and Delegate shall be entitled to receive any balance of the \$6,000 not heretofore paid in the said balance instalments as above directed.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the President of the Senate pro tempore, when there shall be no Vice President, or the Vice President shall have become President of the United States, shall receive the compensation provided by law for the Vice President; and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall receive the compensation provided by law for the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That each Senator, Representative, and Delegate shall be entitled to receive the difference only between their per diem compensation already received under this act, and the per diem compensation provided by this act.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That in the event of the death of any Senator, Representative, or Delegate, prior to the commencement of the first session of the Congress, he shall be neither entitled to mileage nor compensation; and in the event of death after the commencement of any session, his representatives shall be entitled to receive so much of his compensation, computed at the rate of \$3,000 per annum, as he may have actually received, and be due and unpaid.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That if any books shall hereafter be ordered to and received by members of Congress, by a resolution of either or both houses of Congress, the price paid for the same shall be deducted from the compensation herein provided for such member or members. Provided, however, That this shall not extend to books ordered to be printed by the public printer during the Congress for which the said member shall have been elected.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, and Secretary of the Senate, respectively, to deduct from the monthly payment of members as herein provided for the amount of his compensation for each day that such member shall be absent from the House or Senate, respectively, unless such Representative, Senator, or Delegate, shall assign as the reason for such absence the sickness of himself or some member of his family.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with or repugnant to the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

ARTIFICIAL GRANITE.—The Rochester Union says: We have seen some specimens of this article for building purposes which have a durable appearance besides being handsome. The "granite" is made of a composition of sand and lime. Thorough chemical tests have proven its indestructibility. It is moulded in blocks of five times the size of common blocks, and in admirable shape for building. Each block has a mortice through it, so as to pass a current of air through the centre of the entire wall of the building and thus prevent frost from entering. The cost of the article, even in New York, is said to be far less than bricks, and it can be laid more rapidly.

A REMARKABLE SWIMMER.—A singular wagger, says the Salut Public, of Lyons, has just been decided here. One of the best swimmers of the city made a bet that he would cross the Rhone on his back, carrying on his stomach a small table, on which should be placed two bottles full of wine, six eggs on a plate and four glasses. The fall of any of the objects would involve the loss of the wager. The swimmer, however, swam for nearly two hours, displacing "one of the articles, and won the bet."

Mr. Buchanan's Feelings Towards the South in 1850.

The extracts copied below are taken from a speech delivered by Mr. Buchanan in the House of Representatives in 1850. They show what his feelings then were towards the South, and how they have since been changed.

At the period of which we speak, Mexico and Colombia threatened Cuba, as France and England have since done—they threatened to wrest England from the hands of Spain—the conquest of Mexico was attempted by emperors of this nation, and its conquest by the South. Mr. Buchanan directly applied these remarks. Hear what he then said:

Important as this island may be to us in a commercial, it is still more important in a political view. From its position, it commands the entrance of the Gulf both of Mexico and Florida. The report of our Committee on Foreign Relations truly says, "that the Moro may be regarded as a fortress at the mouth of the Mississippi." Any power in possession of this island, even with a small naval force, could hermetically seal the mouth of the Mississippi. Thus, the vast agricultural productions of that valley, which is drained by the father of rivers, might be deprived of the channel which nature intended for their passage.

A large portion of the people of the State, one of whose Representatives I am, find their way to market by the Mississippi. For this reason I feel particularly interested in this part of the subject. The great law of self-preservation, which is equally binding on individuals and nations, commands us, if we cannot obtain possession of this island ourselves, not to suffer it to pass from Spain, under whose dominion it will be harmless. And yet our Government have never entered against its invasion by Mexico and Colombia.

There is still another view of the subject in relation to this island, which demands particular attention. Let us for a moment look at the spectacle which it will present, in case Mexico and Colombia should attempt to revolutionize it. Have they not always marched under the standard of universal emancipation? Have they not always conquered by proclaiming liberty to the slave? In the present condition of the island, what will be the probable consequence?

A servile war, which, in every age, has been the most barbarous and destructive, and which spares neither age nor sex. Revenge, urged on by cruelty and ignorance, would desolate the land. The dreadful scenes of St. Domingo would again be presented to our view, and would again be acted almost within sight of our own shores. Cuba would be a vast magazine in the vicinity of the Southern States, whose explosion would be dangerous to their tranquility and peace.

Permit me now, Mr. Chairman, for a moment, to speak upon a subject, to which I have never before adverted on this floor, and to which, I trust, I may never again have occasion to advert. I mean the subject of slavery. I believe it to be a great political and moral evil. I thank God, my lot has been cast in a State where it does not exist. But while I entertain the opinions, I know it is an evil at present WITHOUT A REMEDY. It has been a curse entailed upon us by that nation which we regard as a subject of our approach to our institutions. It is, however, one of those moral evils, FROM WHICH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO ESCAPE, WITHOUT THE INTRODUCTION OF EVILS INFINITELY GREATER. There are portions of this Union in which, if you emancipate your slaves, they will become masters. There can be no middle course. Is there any man in this Union who could, for one moment, indulge the horrid idea of abolishing slavery, by the massacre of the high-minded, and beyond all reproach men of the South? I trust there is not.

FOR MY OWN PART I WOULD, WITHOUT HESITATION, BUCKLE ON MY KNAPSACK AND MARCH in company with my friend from Massachusetts (Mr. Everett) IN DEFENCE OF THEIR CAUSE.

I am willing to consider slavery as a question entirely domestic, and leave it to those States in which it exists. The constitution of the United States has made it my duty to conduct upon this subject. I have good reason to believe, that the honest, but mistaken attempts of philanthropists, have done much injury to the slaves themselves. These attempts generally reach the ears of the slave, and while they inspire him with false hopes of liberty, and thus make him disobedient, and discontented with his condition, they compel the master to use more severity, than would otherwise have been necessary.

After contemplating this noble and elevated exhibition in regard to the South, our readers will be surprised to learn that Mr. Buchanan's opponents have actually garbled the foregoing passages for evidence of his hostility to the section whose defence he was ready to buckle on his armor! To such an infamous depth of partizan malignity and dishonesty have some of them, at least, not scrupled to descend.

What must Mr. Buchanan think—that what must Northern men who have up to this day, in every expression of friendship so strong. For the sake of our section, for the good name of the race let us rejoice in the belief that few, very few could be found in the South so utterly devoid of gratitude. And let us assure our Northern friends that not only in words, but by acts, the South repudiates such sons as a shame and dishonor to her.—Southside Democrat.

Spontaneous Ignition of Sawdust.—The number for August of the Journal of the Franklin Institute, contains a report of the spontaneous ignition of a wooden box containing sawdust.

It occurred in the factory of